

## Meeting Notes – June 9, 2009

### Billings Rod & Gun Club Master Plan

In attendance: Irv Wilke, Dave Mueller, Mike Whittington, T.J. Smith, John Moorehouse, Gary Smith & Jim Foley – Consultant from Foley Group LLC.

Excused: Scott Nielson

The initial Advisory Committee meeting was held to discuss the Phase I - Inventory work completed, set-up of future individual Division meetings, survey form distribution and to gather input as to the goals each committee member has for the Master Plan. Committee Members goals were as follows:

- 1) To identify options for future development of the wheat fields to the east.
- 2) To identify what new facilities we may need in the future.
- 3) To identify interim uses for the wheat fields prior to facilities expansion.
- 4) To identify the long-term vision and location for the Club's facilities.
- 5) To identify options for the Club's current all volunteer Board management structure.
- 6) To identify appropriate Club office location and hours of operation.
- 7) To identify how the volunteer efforts can be expanded in hopes of providing a feeling of ownership for the general club membership.
- 8) To identify a location for family picnic grounds and a kid's sledding hill.
- 9) To identify the probability of obtaining the State Lands lease of the parcel to the North.
- 10) To address safety issues & conflicts along the borders and surrounding properties of the BR&G Club.
- 11) To provide proper safety fences and signs along the property lines.
- 12) To identify a plan for management of lead contamination.
- 13) To identify lands that can be utilized for the expansion of Sporting Clays.
- 14) To identify additional permanent structures for the Sporting Clays course.
- 15) To resolve the Archery/Sporting Clays conflicts at the southern edge of the Sporting Clays course.
- 16) To identify expansion areas for the rifle range sight-in areas during the pre-hunting season (possibly 25, 50 and 100 yard distances).
- 17) Identify ways in which we can maximize the lifetime of the current land location for club activities --- knowing that at some future time conflicts may arise that prevent rifle and pistol from being viable at the current site.
- 18) Identify a "land-use plan" that will be followed for the next 10 to 15 years.
- 19) Identify ways in which to move/build new ranges in locations that will ease conflict situations such as: moving rifle to the eastern wheat fields, moving clays to the current rifle area and providing a main office at the entry.
- 20) Plan for a possible indoor archery range (20yd to 60 yd targets). And, the possibility of a future indoor 3-D type archery range.
- 21) Identify if an indoor pistol range would be viable.
- 22) Identify youth programs to keep the younger shooters involved.
- 23) Identify ways to increase the hunter education program.
- 24) Identify if a Youth program director would be viable.

In addition the following key information items were discussed:

- 1) Rifle tournaments may start in the future. Yardages for these would be 200 yard for vintage military and 600 to 800 yard for others.
- 2) Indoor 3-D and moving pop-up target archery is a growing trend.
- 3) Rehberg Ranch complaints about noise should come from their Association and not from individual home owners as this would open the Club up to a no win confrontational situation. Furthermore, State

Law identifies that noise from an existing gun range can not be identified as a nuisance in a court of law.

- 4) A handicap bathroom is not currently provided on Club grounds and should be considered in the future.
- 5) City water is not a possibility until a portion of the Club grounds are annexed into the City. This would require the Club to subdivide a portion of its land.
- 6) The club has a vegetation management plan that was adopted in 2006; however, there is currently a lack of agreement as to the implementation of this plan.
- 7) The Rehberg open space to the west is a City Park open for use by the entire City.
- 8) A first right of refusal on any sale of some adjacent lands to the east could be beneficial to the club.
- 9) A general club meeting for review of concepts should be publicized via a special mailer.
- 10) Survey forms will be distributed at Division meeting, by Advisory Committee members. In addition they will be available at all Clubhouses. The consultant will also hand them out on the ranges. We are hoping to obtain at least a 10% response from the 2000 family members.

Division Master Planning Input Meeting Dates will possibly be:

Archery – June 18<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM

Sporting Clays – June 16<sup>th</sup> – prior to the Board meeting

Rifle/Pistol – Scott Nielson to advise

Skeet – Jim to contact Billy Williams

Conservation – none required

All advisory Committee members are encouraged to participate in any and all of the meetings that they can attend.